

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SAM GEJDENSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 1995

Mr. GEJDENSON. Mr. Speaker, on Friday, May 12, I was unexpectedly called back to Connecticut. As a result, I missed three rollcall votes. Had I been present, I would have voted as follows: Rollcall 327—Bateman amendment to Lipinski amendment—"no"; Rollcall 328—Lipinski amendment—"yes"; Rollcall 329—Largent amendment—"no."

TRIBUTE TO THE CENTENARIANS
OF THE WEDGEWOOD PAVILION
NURSING HOME

HON. BOBBY L. RUSH

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 1995

Mr. RUSH. Mr. Speaker, it is my great pleasure to rise today to offer my sincerest congratulations to three truly wonderful seniors, who on Tuesday, the 16th of May, will receive special recognition from the Social Security Administration for having reached the extraordinary age of 100 years old.

The recipients of this special honor are Mr. Frank Howard, Ms. Mary Simmons, and Ms. Bertha Williams. Each of these distinguished centenarians have touched so many people over the years, and they are to be applauded for their achievements over the past century.

I wish to extend to each of them my best wishes on this wonderful occasion, and am proud and honored to enter these words of commendation into the RECORD.

"A PATTERN OF SLIGHTS TO OUR
STRONGEST ALLIES"

HON. DOUG BEREUTER

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 1995

Mr. BEREUTER. Mr. Speaker, as leader of the free world, the United States has been ably joined in our foreign policy pursuits by a number of steadfast friends and allies. Nations such as France and, in particular, Great Britain, have stood by the United States when others remained silent. While international relations have changed dramatically with the end of the cold war, we should understand that we cannot, we must not, take these relationships for granted. Indeed, in the post-cold-war era, the United States can ill afford to slight our friends and allies when a wide range of challenges to our economic and security interests abroad cannot be effectively confronted unilaterally.

Two actions, in particular, have recently frayed the strong ties binding the United States with Great Britain—our staunchest ally in Western Europe. To the consternation of the British Government, the Clinton administration first granted visas to members of the Irish Republican Army and then invited IRA leader Gerry Adams to the White House. Moreover, relations between the United States

and its West European allies have been seriously strained as a result of failed efforts to quell the conflict on the Balkan Peninsula. There have been occasions when the Clinton administration proposed major initiatives in Bosnia-Herzegovina without consulting our European allies—nations that have thousands of troops on the ground. Such affronts to our best friends, whether intended or not, are actions that do little but to undermine our long-standing relations with these nations.

Mr. Speaker, this Member would point out that the most recent slight to our European allies occurred during the 50th anniversary of the Allied victory in Europe. As noted in the May 9, 1995, Omaha World Herald editorial entitled "Clinton's Affront to England, France," President Clinton's decision not to participate in the English and French V-E ceremonies was a shabby way to acknowledge those allies that did so much not only to halt Nazi aggression in World War II but to protect the free world during the cold war era. This Member commends this editorial to his colleagues.

[From the Omaha World Herald, May 9, 1995]

CLINTON'S AFFRONT TO ENGLAND, FRANCE

President Clinton showed little loyalty to America's staunchest World War II allies and even less to the lessons of history when he chose to commemorate the 50th anniversary of V-E Day in Moscow rather than with other Allied leaders in more appropriate cities.

Clinton sent Vice President Al Gore to represent the United States in London, Paris and Berlin. This was a shabby way to acknowledge the allies that did so much to save the Free World, allies that after the war formed the Atlantic Alliance to protect freedom in the decades since.

Russian President Boris Yeltsin deserves criticism, too. Yeltsin, whose position as head of the Russian nation is far from solid, was unwilling to celebrate V-E Day outside of Moscow. Yeltsin should not have forced Clinton into such a choice.

Just as the "Big Three" leaders of World II, Franklin Roosevelt, Winston Churchill and Josef Stalin, met together during the war, so today's American, British and Russian leaders should have stood together on the 50th anniversary of V-E Day.

Yeltsin should not have set up such a situation, and Clinton should not have allowed himself to be manipulated so cynically with a schoolyard me-or-them ultimatum.

Certainly, the Soviets paid dearly in blood and treasure in order to defeat Germany on the Eastern Front. And yes, this was integral to the Allied victory. Moscow, however, embraced virtue only out of necessity.

Despite Allied efforts to enlist the Soviets, Stalin initially signed a nonaggression pact with Germany. Only when Hitler violated that pact by invading the Soviet Union did Stalin come to his senses.

Through it all—betrayal by Stalin, the fall of France, the blitz, the darkest days of the war—England and her people refused to waver. In his ultimately unsuccessful plea that the Vichy government not give in to the Nazis, Churchill reminded everyone of how much was at stake in the war against Hitler: "If we can stand up to him, all Europe, may be freed and the life of the world may move forward into broad, sunlit uplands. But if we fail, the whole world, including the United States and all that we have known and cared for, will sink into the abyss of a new dark age."

Clinton chose not to honor this rich and moving legacy during the commemoration of V-E Day. It was an affront to the people of England and the people of France.

HEATHER WILLIS, VOICE OF
DEMOCRACY WINNER

HON. HAROLD L. VOLKMER

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 1995

Mr. VOLKMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a high school senior from Bowling Green, MO—Heather Willis. Heather has been named a national winner in the 1995 Voice of Democracy Program and the recipient of the Robert A. Stock Memorial Scholarship. The Voice of Democracy program is sponsored each year by the Veterans of Foreign Wars of the United States and its Ladies Auxiliary, asking high school seniors to write and record a 3–5 minute essay on a patriotic subject.

I believe that Heather's essay, "My Vision of America," is an excellent example of what we hope our children are learning in school: An understanding of the principles on which this country was founded and the realization that we all have a part to play in its continued greatness.

I feel that Heather, the daughter of two school principals—Keith and Charlene Willis, has clearly demonstrated a maturity beyond her years. She's hoping to attend Missouri University-Columbia to pursue a career in either law or journalism, and I am sure she will excel in either field.

I urge my colleagues to take a few minutes to read this very thoughtful essay.

MY VISION FOR AMERICA

It was a single candle that lit mine, and in the chain of events, I lit another until finally the room was filled with illuminated faces.

Many of you have seen it at a candlelight service. A dark room lit by the flame of one candle, the light growing brighter and brighter as the flame is passed.

It always amazes me that the instigation of one small spark, one small idea, one person, can make such a difference in a chain of events. If one did not start such an event, would anything be accomplished?

The United States of America is considered to be one of the most powerful and influential nations in the world. It has been constructed in this fashion because of the power given to its people.

Out of all the people who started this nation, there stood out among them a number of sparks that passed on the flame of a dream.

A man, who would not allow our country to be suppressed under England's rein, led a convention of independence. His ideas struck many others and together, the land we call home was granted independence.

A president who believed a nation should stick together. A president who said, "With malice toward none, With charity for all." A president who freed a race, helped make our country what it is today.

A song writer, who watched the flag of our nation withstand the firing of guns and the storms of the sky believed that the nation this flag represented had to be just as strong. He wrote what today brings thousands of Americans to tears, what today unites a nation. Something as simple as a song.

The hopes and dreams of our nation have solely depended on a people to make them reality. We have the power to make or break our nation. Our forefathers have handed us the torch—it is our turn to pass it on.

Where do we start? We start with me—we start with you.

A dream is a wonderful thing to have, that is unless it stays just that—a dream.

What is that man had not pursued his dream for independence? What if that president had not pursued his vision? What if?

My vision, and hopefully yours, is that we as families, as communities, as a nation, as a people, start working together as a unit. We, as a people, need to understand that as long as we have dreams, there is always room for reality—but if we keep fighting each other there will never be peace. If the notes were never written, there would never have been a song.

You and I are the future of this nation—let's not let it down. We need to look deep within ourselves and believe that as one person, we have the power to make a difference.

Our late president John F. Kennedy once said that "One person can make a difference . . . and each of us must try."

I challenge you to take your hopes and dreams for this nation and ignite the imagination of those around you. Your ideas may fan a flame and America will brighten. The light will grow because of you.

One writer has observed that: Rosa Parks was just one person. She said one word. She said it on December 1, 1955. She said it to a bus driver. The word was no. She said one word and a nation blushed. One word and a world talked. One woman said one word and 17,000 people walked.

Yes, "One person can make a difference . . . and each of us must try."

My vision is to illuminate a nation—one step at a time. In order to start this fire, I need you, my neighbor, to pass on the flame. America needs you to pass the flame. We, the citizens of the most powerful nation in the world, must become an international source of light, each person holding the flames of a dream, and then we as a nation can set a world on fire.

WEST VALLEY ACHIEVES SAFETY MILESTONE

HON. AMO HOUGHTON

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 1995

Mr. HOUGHTON. Mr. Speaker, I'd like to extend my congratulations to the workers at the West Valley demonstration project in the 31st District of New York. They have completed 1 full year—over 2 million work hours—without losing 1 day due to a work related accident.

The West Valley demonstration project, created in 1980, is addressing both a local and national need for radioactive waste management technology.

At the project, the Department of Energy is developing and implementing technology to safely solidify the liquid high-level radioactive waste that is currently stored at the site.

When the project started in 1982, a team of 50 employees began building the team that has developed, installed, tested, and is now preparing for fully remote operation of a unique vitrification system.

By 1996, the system will begin solidifying the liquid high-level waste at the site into durable, solid glass suitable for safe storage and disposal.

West Valley's safety and technology achievements are a real tribute to western New York workers, and their dedication to quality and performance.

I join many others in congratulating the employees of the West Valley demonstration project for a job well done.

TRIBUTE TO LEE J. KAUPER, DIRECTOR OF THE FRANKLIN DELANO ROOSEVELT VETERANS HOSPITAL

HON. SUE W. KELLY

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 1995

Mrs. KELLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Lee J. Kauper—a resident of the 19th Congressional District—who will soon be retiring from his post as the director of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Veterans Hospital in Montrose, NY. His contributions to those in and around his facility have been seemingly limitless.

Appointed director of the veterans hospital on June 2, 1991, he has promoted an active and innovative agenda. The Westchester County facility provides tertiary psychiatric care and primary medical services in conjunction with long-term care and substance abuse treatment. The 800-bed facility is the fifth largest public employer in the country with more than 1,400 full-time staff. And in excess of 70,000 outpatient visits are logged each year.

He has dedicated the better portion of his life to the service of his country, first as a member of our Nation's military and then later on as an administrator caring for our Nation's veterans.

Aside from these personal accomplishments, Mr. Kauper is an active member of his community—a member of the Peekskill Rotary Club, vice chair of the Federal Executive Board, a board member of the Combined Federal Campaign, a board member of the Peekskill Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Northern Metropolitan Hospital Association, a member of the American Legion Advisory Board, and the list goes on and on.

The America we all know and love is typified by the spirit of dedication to the preservation of the community. The idea of individual sacrifice has long been ingrained in our national identity, and its individuals such as Mr. Kauper, who so ably maintains this tradition.

Both the patients and staff of the Franklin Delano Roosevelt Veterans Hospital and the people of Westchester County have a great deal to be thankful for in having people such as Mr. Kauper preserving this ideal. In this spirit Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in offering my personal congratulations and heartfelt thanks to Mr. Kauper, not just as Members of Congress but as members of one community—America. Mr. Speaker, on behalf of the friends, colleagues, and admirers of Lee Kauper, I hereby express my heartfelt appreciation for his years of service and recognize the joyous occasion of his retirement.

IN MEMORY OF ELIZABETH GLASER

HON. NANCY PELOSI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 1995

Ms. PELOSI. Mr. Speaker, Sunday was Mother's Day. I rise to honor the memory of Elizabeth Glaser, a brave and loving mother who led national efforts to call attention to pediatric AIDS.

Elizabeth went door to door in Congress to make the case for increased funding for pediatric AIDS research. Her moving speech at the Democratic Convention in New York inspired the Nation. Her relentless advocacy led to major increases in funding for pediatric AIDS research and congressional attention to pediatric AIDS prevention and patient care concerns.

Thursday, May 11, Members of Congress, administration officials, and pediatric AIDS advocates appeared before the Commerce Committee to present views on preventing HIV transmission from mothers to newborns. The hearing highlighted all that Elizabeth accomplished through her work. The focus of the hearing was to find ways to implement remarkable research findings from the National Institutes of Health [NIH] where researchers developed medical treatments to reduce from 25 to 8 percent the number of newborns infected by their mothers during pregnancy and delivery.

Elizabeth Glaser's advocacy had led to this research that will give thousands of infants the opportunity for a healthy life. We lost Elizabeth to AIDS last December. But her legacy is with us and is cause for honoring her memory on Mother's Day.

H.R. —, THE REGULATORY ACCOUNTING ACT OF 1995

HON. THOMAS J. BLILEY, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, May 15, 1995

Mr. BLILEY. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing H.R. —, the Regulatory Accounting Act of 1995. The Regulatory Accounting Act of 1995 provides an important tool to understand the magnitude and impact of Federal regulatory programs on our economy. Currently, the executive branch and Congress devote a great deal of time and effort to prepare and debate the annual budget of the Federal Government. This budget determines how much money the Federal Government will collect and where it will spend the money. The budget for fiscal year 1995 is approximately \$1.5 trillion.

The Federal budget, however, fails to take into account the full impact of Federal programs on the U.S. economy. The Federal Government also imposes tremendous costs on the private sector, State and local governments and, ultimately, the public through ever-increasing Federal regulations. Some recent estimates place the compliance costs from Federal regulatory programs at over \$600 billion annually and project substantial growth even without new legislation. This amounts to \$6,000 per year per family. The costs are often hidden in increased prices for goods and services, loss of international competitiveness in the global economy, lack of investment in private sector job growth, and pressure on the ability of State and local governments to fund essential services, such as crime prevention and education.

The benefits of Federal programs are no doubt substantial. Lack of accountability and regulatory reform, however, has left many Federal programs inefficient or marginally productive. Unlike the private sector, where freedom of contract and free market competition